3 Docket NO: 99-81 01-185

DEC 3 | 2002

Berling Stewart and State (Section 1998) The Annual State



DATE:

December 23.2002

TO:

John Branscome

FROM:

Larry Williams

RE:

ATC Record

John.

We appreciate your dedication in trying to ger ATC completed this year. We understand the complexity involved and **know** that everyone **is** putting in a lot of overtime **to** get it done. Nonetheless, as you try to finish it up, we wanted to make sure you had copies of the attached letters rhat have been filed in support of your effoits in this regard. This is only a partial list and we will send you the remainder first thing next week.

Thanks again for all your help. Hopefully we are almost 10 the end.

Happy Holidays,

Larry

No of Copies reold (

Na of Conjes LIST ABONE

SCRE GR7 707 T TWI 77 OF NOW

н с*үвө*ргич

Re: IB Docket No. 99-81 (2 GHz MMS Service Rules)

JOHN F. KERRY, N. C. STONDONING TO SECURE TO JOHN F. REBRY, LOUISMAN, BYON WHEN LOUISMAN BYON WHEN LOUISMAN BY CONTRANCE OF CONTRANCE CALIFORNIA DAYS CALIFORNIA LOUIN EDWARDS, NOTH CARIONING TO CONTRANCE, NOTH CARIONING TO CONTRANCE, NOTH CARIONING MISSOURI

Kay Balley Hutchiscon, Texas Comon Sulth Oregon Paha Engiga, Nevada Peter C, Ntzcépald, Illinous Peter C, Ntzcépald, Illinous Peter C, Ntzcépald, Illinous Céorge Ailen, Vircinia

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

otenic and Edited

1002, 2001

BECEINED

DEC 2 | 5005

, and service of the service of temper of temper of temper of the service of the service of temper of temper of temper of temperature of tem

The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W.

MARK BUSE, STAFF OIRECTOR KEVIN D. KAYES, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

Washington, D.C. 20554

Deat Chairnan Powell:

Rural Americans throughout the country, including many of our constituents, are still awaiting the introduction of broadband services. The Commission, recognizing this problem, has allocated spectrum in the 2 GHz band for Mobile Satellite Service ("MSS") and is currently working towards issuing licenses to the first set of applicants. The successful operation of MSS systems will bring to unserved and underserved areas, the same advanced communications capabilities available to urban users and will enhance the capabilities of public safety and military personnel.

It has come to our attention that the Commission has been asked to authorize ancillary terrestrial use as a complement to 2 GHz MSS. It is our understanding that it may be necessary to provide 2 GHz MSS operators with the flexibility to engage in ancillary terrestrial service in order to ensure the financial viability and the efficient use of 2 GHz spectrum by MSS operators of the commission has endorsed previously with respect to other satellite service. Two GHz MSS operators will not be able to attract the billions of dollars in financial capital necessary to build and launch their systems without the ability to maximize their spectrum efficiency to build and launch their systems without the ability to maximize their spectrum efficiency the ability of MSS operators to serve customers by improving the economics of MSS. This proposal does not require allocation of additional spectrum or sharing among different licensees service and in a manner consistent with prior Commission decisions of combined use systems.

MSS systems have the unique ability to accomplish a host of public policy goals. If permitted to provide ancillary terrestrial service, 2 GHz MSS operators will be able to provide ubiquitous global connectivity. Since millions of Americans who live in rural areas currently have no mobile voice or data service, an MSS network will be their best, if not their only choice for fast digital connections. In addition, military, maritime, recreational, and public safety users for fast digital connections. In addition, military, maritime, recreational, and public safety users

:2-

will benefit from MSS coverage of rural areas. In the case of a natural disaster or other crisis, MSS may provide the only communications link for military, maritime, and public safety personnel, and recreational users.

If the 2 GHz MSS service is to succeed, the Commission must decide the issue as quickly as possible, because applicants cannot begin in earnest to raise the enormous sums necessary to design, build, and deploy their systems when they do not yet have licenses and key aspects of the service rules remain under reconsideration. Further delay may be tantamount to denial. Therefore, we urge you to move as quickly as possible to decide the request to add an ancillary terrestrial component to 2 GHz MSS service.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

TED STEVENS

IOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV

T HÖLLINGS

BYRON L DORGAN